This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 28-30, 32-46 and 50-56 (Withdrawn and Canceled).

Claim 31 (Previously Amended) A cable headend for a television program delivery system which uses a plurality of video signals and instructions, and wherein set top terminals communicate with the cable headend, the cable headend comprising:

a signal processor for processing a plurality of video signals comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of video signals;

means for selecting video signals from the plurality of video signals; and

combiner means for combining the selected video signals for distribution to set top terminals;

a network controller for controlling the operation of the signal processor and the set top terminals comprising:

means for obtaining communications from the set top terminals;

a computer processor, connected to the obtaining means, for generating instructions to the signal processor using the communications from the set top terminals; and

means for transferring the instructions to the signal processor to be used for selecting video signals; and

a means for distributing the combined video signals to the set top terminals.

Claim 47. (Original) A system for cherry-picking desired digital programs or channels from one or more multiplexed signals comprising:

a CPU, wherein the CPU manages, monitors, ensures that the desired digital programs or channels are selected, and sends instructions;

a demultiplexer, wherein the demultiplexer receives the signals, performs selection of the desired programs or channels according to instructions sent from the CPU, and the outputs the selected programs or channels;

a combiner, wherein the combiner accepts the outputted selected programs or channels from the demultiplexer and combines the selected programs or channels into a combined signal for transmission according to instructions sent from the CPU; and

wherein the CPU manages and monitors the demultiplexer and the combiner.

Claim 48. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the demultiplexer separates the multiplexed signals into individual digital programs or channels.

Claim 49. (Original) The system of claim 47 further comprising a local insertion device, wherein the local insertion device receives one or more local programs and outputs one or more local programs to the combiner, and wherein the combiner combines the output local programs with the selected programs or channels.

Claim 57 (Currently Amended) A system for cherry-picking desired digital programs or channels from one or more multiplexed signals comprising:

a CPU, wherein the CPU manages, monitors, ensures that the desired digital programs or channels are selected, and sends instructions;

a digital logic component, wherein the digital logic component selects the desired digital programs or channels according to instructions sent by the CPU and outputs the selected digital programs or channels;

a serializer, wherein the serializer combines the selected programs or channels into a signal for transmission according to instructions sent by the CPU; and

wherein the CPU manages and monitors the digital logic component ~~and the serializer~~.

Claim 58 (Original) The system of claim 57 further comprising:

a demultiplexer, wherein the demultiplexer separates the multiplexed signals into individual digital programs or channels.

Claim 59 (Original) The system of claim 57 further comprising a local insertion device, wherein the local insertion device receives one or more local programs and outputs one or more local programs to the serializer, and wherein the serializer combines the output local programs with the selected programs or channels.

Claim 65 (Original) The system of claim 57 further comprising

a receiver; and

a modulator, wherein the modulator modulates the combines signal for transmission.

Claim 66 (Original) The system of claim 57 wherein the instructions comprise control signals.

Claim 67 (Original) A method for cherry-picking desired digital programs or channels from one or more multiplexed signals comprising the steps of:

receiving information and one or more multiplexed signals containing a plurality of digital programs or channels, wherein the information includes data on identities of the desired digital programs or channels;

generating instructions regarding the desired digital programs or channels, wherein the instructions are generated using the received information;

selecting the desired digital programs or channels using the generated instructions, wherein the selected digital programs for channels are a subset of the plurality of digital programs or channels contained in the multiplexed signals; and

combining the selected digital programs or channels into a combined signal for transmission.

Claim 68 (Original) The method of claim 67, further comprising the step of demultiplexing the multiplexed signals into individual digital programs or channels.

Claim 69 (Original) The method of claim 67 further comprising the step of:

inserting one or more local programs, wherein the local programs are combined with the selected digital programs or channels in the combining step.

Claim 70 (Original) A method for filtering unwanted digital programs or channels from one or more multiplexed signals, comprising the steps of:

receiving information and one or more multiplexed signals containing a plurality of digital programs or channels, wherein the information includes data on identities of the digital programs or channels;

generating instructions regarding the digital programs or channels, wherein the instructions are based on the received information;

removing unwanted digital programs or channels using the generated instructions, wherein the unwanted digital programs or channels are a subset of the plurality of digital programs or channels contained in the multiplexed signals and whereby removing the unwanted digital programs or channels leaves the remaining plurality of digital programs or channels contained in the multiplexed signals; and

combining the remaining plurality of digital programs or channels into a combined signal for transmission.

Claim 71 (Original) The method of claim 70, further comprising the step of demultiplexing the multiplexed signals into individual digital programs or channels.

Claim 72 (Original) The method of claim 70 wherein the information received includes identities of the unwanted digital programs or channels.

Claim 73 (Original) The method of claim 70 wherein the generated instructions comprise identities of the unwanted digital programs or channels and whereby the removing step uses the generated instructions to remove the unwanted digital programs or channels.